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ST. MATTHIAS' CHURCH
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

ST. MATTHIAS' CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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The congregation of St. Matthias' Church occupies facilities erected on a somewhat triangular plot of ground formed by the intersection of Briar Road, 75th Avenue, and Tulpehocken Street. The church building is a modern gothic, stone structure with a full undercroft. The church seats 250 persons and the entire plant is very clean and well cared for. A connecting educational wing contains utility rooms plus a large auditorium that can be converted into 10 classrooms. The rectory is a brick, six-room residence not far from the church building and is reported to be in excellent condition. Insurance coverage on all buildings appears to be within normal limits.

This congregation was organized under the name of St. John The Baptist Mission. In 1942 the Church of St. Matthias' at 19th and Wallace Streets was merged with St. John's Mission and the name of the combined congregation became the Church of St. Matthias'. The mission church building, erected in 1940, was enlarged in 1948. In 1962 an educational wing was built. Details of this history may be seen on Page K-4 of the Church Self-Study Form.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

The area surrounding the Church of St. Matthias' is residential in character containing single-homes, apartments, and row houses. It is reported that there is a slow influx of Negro people into the area.

The United States Census Bureau has divided the City of Philadelphia into small geographical units

called census tracts which are used for enumeration purposes. St. Matthias' Church is located in Census Tract 50-F. The Division of Research has arbitrarily assigned this census tract plus seven surrounding census tracts to be a combined "parish study area". Since Census Tract 50-F is part of the border between the City of Philadelphia and Montgomery County, two of the Montgomery County census tracts have been included in the parish area.

In 1960 the population of this parish study area was 52,374. Census Tract 50-E to the south and east of the church location had a population decline of -10.1% in the 1950 decade. Conversely, Census Tract 50-G, to the north and west of the church location, had a population increase of 47.5% during the same decade. Comparable data are not available for all census tracts in the parish study area.

It may be seen on the chart below that children under 15 years of age comprise a large part of the population in all except two of the census tracts. Adults 65 years of age and over are numerous in four of the census tracts, and particularly in Census Tract 50-E. The non-white portion of the population in 1960 was not large except in Census Tract M-24B.

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	POPULATION 1950	POPULATION 1960	% CHANGE	% 14 & UNDER	% 65 & OVER	% NON-WHITE
50-F	NA	11,557	-	22.8	11.1	0.1
50-E	8,440	7,590	-10.1	18.5	15.1	0.04
50-G	2,908	4,290	47.5	32.4	4.6	0.02
50-K	NA	6,107	-	30.3	6.6	-
50-L	NA	7,041	-	23.0	8.0	0.07
50-M	6,135	6,157	0.4	26.6	9.1	0.4
M-24-A	NA	3,932	-	17.9	13.1	0.1
M-24-B	NA	5,701	-	23.3	11.3	10.1
TOTAL		52,375				1.2

The median age of the population in 1960 varied from the low 30's to the upper 40's. It is to be regretted that information was not forthcoming from this parish that would have allowed a comparison of the congregation's median age with that of the population of the area.

The median education of the population is approximately high school level except in two of the census tracts where it is slightly less. The chart below gives the percentage of adults 25 years of age and over who graduated from high school, attended college, or graduated from college. It will be noted there that the Montgomery County tracts have a higher educational level than the rest of the area.

EDUCATION OF ADULTS 25 YRS. OF AGE & OVER

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	% H.S. GRAD.	% COLLEGE 1-3 YRS.	% COLLEGE GRAD.	OVER 25	MED. EDUC.	MED. AGE M	MED. AGE F
50-F	32.3	10.1	8.8	2,596	12.0	37.5	40.9
50-E	28.2	8.3	7.7	5,365	11.1	41.8	47.7
50-G	38.1	10.9	16.3	2,435	12.4	30.3	31.1
50-K	36.0	11.3	13.8	3,704	12.3	33.4	34.2
50-L	32.3	8.5	10.4	4,500	12.0	36.4	40.2
50-M	26.8	6.8	5.5	3,735	10.8	31.9	36.1
M-24-A	29.1	15.6	25.9	2,760	12.7	33.3	36.6
M-24-B	26.3	13.8	23.1	3,602	12.5	36.3	39.3

Between 1955 and 1960, 30% or less of the population changed its place of residence except in Census Tract M-24-A which had, approximately, an 80% movement factor. The median family income is moderate in the area, and may be seen on the chart below.

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CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	NON-WHITE POPULATION 1950	1960	% CHANGE	MED. FAMILY INC.	RESIDENCE 1960 SAME AS 1955 %
50-F	NA	15	-	7,304	71.4
50-E	5	3	-40.0	6,872	70.9
50-G	4	1	-75.0	7,537	69.4
50-K	NA	0	-	6,799	80.5
50-L	NA	5	-	7,346	76.2
50-M	9	22	144.4	6,638	72.1
M-24A	NA	4		7,854	20.7
M-24B	NA	577		10,333	61.3

A summary of all membership maps in the Diocesan Study reveals the fact that there were 636 identifiable Episcopalians residing in the parish study area at that time. This number is 1.2% of the 1960 population of the area, a figure that is below the diocesan average of 3.2% and the national average of 1.8%.

Of the 636 Episcopalians, 243, or 38.2%, look to St. Matthias' Church for spiritual guidance. This number is 66.4% of the mapped membership of the congregation.

It must be noted, however, that the 366 mapped members is considerably smaller than the reported baptized membership of 632 reported in the Church Self-Study Form and the 643 reported in the Journal of the Diocese.

Parish leaders may wish to first locate all baptized persons belonging to this congregation on a membership map and then recalculate the percentage that actually resides within the assigned parish area.

For comparison purposes the following chart gives the number of identifiable Episcopalians in the area and the percentage relations between them.

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP. EPIS.	TOTAL PARISH MEMB.	% EPIS. MEMB.	% PARISH MEMB.
50-F	11,557	147	1.3	93	63.3	25.4
50-E	7,590	129	1.7	62	48.1	16.9
50-G	4,290	77	1.8	14	18.2	3.8
50-K	6,107	65	1.1	27	41.5	7.4
50-L	7,041	45	0.6	0	-	0
50-M	6,157	52	0.8	8	15.4	2.2
SUB TOTAL	42,742	515	1.2	204	39.6	55.7
M-24A	3,932	66	1.7	2	3.0	0.6
M-24B	5,701	55	1.0	37	67.3	10.1
TOTAL	52,375	636	1.2	243	38.2	66.4

Located within the church neighborhood are three public grade schools, one public junior high school, two parochial grade schools, and one community college. In addition there are 13 religious congregations in the church neighborhood.

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THE CHURCH PROGRAM

A copy of the Church Self-Study Form report has been duplicated and is included as a part of this Study. Parish leaders should read this report through carefully, noting the comments, statistics, and omissions.

Since most of the pertinent data included are commented on at the end of this Study, no further discussion of them will be given at this point.

GENERAL DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDY
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Date June 1st, 1964

CHURCH SELF-STUDY FORM

PH-73

I. IDENTIFICATION

Church Church of St. Matthias

Street 7485 Briar Road

City Philadelphia

County Philadelphia

Diocese Pennsylvania

Parish or Mission Parish

State Pennsylvania

What geographic area does this church serve? General area bounded by the following parishes: St. Martin's, Oak Lane; House of Prayer; Holy Nativity; Grace, Mount Airy; St. Peter's, Glenside; and St. Paul's, Elkins Park.

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II. THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

A. The church is located in a section of the city which is occupied by:

Downtown commercial uses ____ Industrial uses ____ Apartment dwellings x

Rooming houses ____ Single-home dwellings x A college ____ Military uses ____ Other institutions ____

B. If more than one type is checked above, please clarify:

Area primarily residential, with single homes, row houses, and apartments

C. Is the church neighborhood changing in any way? Describe:

Very gradual influx of colored people into an area predominently Roman Catholic and Jewish. A number of recently built apartment complexes.

D. The following schools are located within the church neighborhood:

PUBLIC GRADE SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
Edmunds	Sedgwick & Thouron Sts.
Kinsey	65th & Limekiln Pike
Pennypacker	Washington Lane & Thouron St.

PUBLIC JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
Morris E. Leeds Jr. High	Mt. Pleasant Ave. & Woolston Road

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL NURSERY SCHOOLS	ADDRESS

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL GRADE SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
St. Athanasius Parochial School	Limekiln Pike & Middleton St.
St. Raymonds Parochial School	Williams Avenue & Vernon Road

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS	ADDRESS

JUNIOR COLLEGES AND COLLEGES	ADDRESS
Temple Community College	Cheltenham Avenue

E. The following churches are located within the church neighborhood:

NAME OF CHURCH AND DENOMINATION	ADDRESS
West Oak Lane Baptist	6841 Ogontz Avenue
1st Church - Church of God in N. Amer.	74th Avenue & Walnut Lane
St. Peter's Lutheran	74th Avenue & Briar Road
Reformation Lutheran	Vernon Road & Rugby Street
Grace Methodist	71st & Ogontz Ave.
Cedar Park Presbyterian	Limekiln Pike & Upsal Street
Dales Memorial Presbyterian	Chelten Avenue & Limekiln Pike
Faith United Church of Christ	7255 Ogontz Avenue
Woodcrest United Church of Christ	Mt. Pleasant Ave. and Thouron Street
Ezrath Israel	69th & Ogontz Avenue
West Oak Lane Community Center	Thouron & Sedgwick St.
St. Athanasius R. C. Church	Limekiln Pike & Middleton St.
St. Raymonds R. C. Church	Williams Avenue & Vernon Road

III. HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

Please write out a short history of this congregation. How was the work started? Give the important dates and events.

Our Mission was organized in 1933, with the Rector of St. John The Baptist, in Germantown, assigned as first Vicar. The Mission was called "The Mission of St. John The Baptist". Services were held in private homes in the neighborhood; a Choir was formed; a Church School was organized. In April, 1933, a private home at 7500 Tulpehocken Street was purchased.

During the Summer of 1934, an abandoned frame Church building in Southampton, Bucks County, was moved from that place to the property purchased at the intersection of Tulpehocken Street and Briar Road, and erected on the North end of the property. It was first used for Services on December 3, 1933.

In July, 1939, ground was broken for a Church building, and Services were held on Christmas Eve of the same year. By Easter Day, 1940, the new building was completely furnished through memorial gifts and thank offerings.

In 1942 it was decided to merge the Church of St. Matthias, 19th & Wallace Sts., with St. John's Mission. St. Matthias had been founded in 1856, but declined after many years of service because of the changing neighborhood. The property at 19th & Wallace was sold; the proceeds transferred to the new mission; and the name of the mission changed to the Church of St. Matthias.

In 1948 the Church building was enlarged; the name year, the residence at 7497 Tulpehocken Street, rented as a Rectory, was purchased.

Ground was broken in March, 1962, for the erection of an educational wing; construction was completed by October of the same year, and Church School classes were held in the new wing starting on October 21st, 1962.

IV. THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

A. Church properties:

1. Describe and give location of all land owned by the congregation, reporting the use of each parcel.

Property bounded by Briar Road, 75th Avenue, and Tulpehocken Street, on which Church and Educational wing are located. Rectory at 7497 Tulpehocken Street.

2. Type of church building: Frame ___ Brick ___ Stone x Other _____ (type)

Describe the church building, giving number of sittings; condition of building; and improvements needed, with estimated cost:

Stone building erected in 1939, enlarged in 1949; wing added 1962. All of stone construction. Church seats 250; wing seats 280; all property in excellent condition. All fully covered by insurance.

Replacement Value $ 300,000.00 Amount of insurance carried $ 320,000.00

3. Type of parish hall or house: Attached x Separated _____;

In basement of the church _____; Frame _____ Brick _____

Stone x Other _____ (type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of the building, and improvements needed, with the estimated cost.

Educational wing 35' x 90' with connecting passage to Undercroft. Two rest rooms in connecting passage. Vestibule, Cloak Rook, full stage in wing. Fold-doors convert auditorium into 10 classrooms. Wing has its own heater.

Replacement value $ 65,000.00 Amount of insurance carried $ 72,000.00

4. Type of rectory or clergy house: Attached _____ Separated __x__;

Frame _____ Brick __x__ Stone _____ Other _____
(type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of this building, and improvements needed, with estimated cost.

6 rooms and bath - all in excellent condition

Is it used as a clergy residence? __x__ If not, what use is made of the building?

Replacement value: $ 13,000.00 Insurance carried: $ 14,000.00

5. Describe all other buildings owned or used by the congregation, giving (a) type of construction; (b) number of rooms; (c) condition; (d) improvements needed and estimated cost; (e) replacement value; (f) amount of insurance carried; and (g) present use.

No other

B. Membership (secure from parish records):

1. Number of church families: Total number 117

   Number of individuals not in families 127

2. Baptized membership — Communicants — Church School

Baptized membership 1950	Baptized membership 1960	Baptized membership Now	Communicants 1950	Communicants 1960	Communicants Now	Church School 1950	Church School 1960	Church School Now
561	555	632	353	490	488	136	110	106

	5 yrs. ago	4 yrs. ago	3 yrs. ago	2 yrs. ago	Last year
3. Number of baptized members who were removed from the parish list	10	8	9	7	6
Number of baptized members who were added to the parish list	16 ~~10x~~	10 ~~16~~	16 ~~8~~	8	11

4. Communicants added: By confirmation from Episcopal families	9	14	9	7	7
By confirmation from other Churches	7	5	4	7	4
By reception from other Churches	-	-	-	-	-
By baptism and confirmation from no church	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16	19	13	14	11

5. Attendance:

Number of communicants who attended regularly last year	200
Number of communicants who attended occasionally	150
Number who did not attend last year, but lived in the community	30
Number of communicants who did not live in the community, but were on the parish records, not transferred	20

6. How many persons attended the last annual business meeting? 100

V. WORSHIP

A. List schedule of regular Sunday services, including church school:

TYPE OF SERVICE	HOUR	ATTENDANCE (Adults & Children)* LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Holy Communion	8 A.M.	x		
Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)	9:30 A.M.		x	
Holy Communion (1st Sunday)	11:00 A.M.		x	
Morning Prayer	9:30 A.M.		x	
Morning Prayer	11:00 A.M.		x	

*Use figures from Church Service Register

B. Weekday services:

TYPE OF SERVICE	DAY AND HOUR	ATTENDANCE* LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Holy Communion	Wednesday - 9:30 A.M.	x		

*Use figures from the Church Service Register

C. Special services or missions held during the average year (including Lent):

Ash Wed. Holy Comm. (9:30 A.M.), Eve. Pr. (7:30 P.M.); Wed. schedule through Lent; Maundy Thurs. H.C. at 7:30 P.M.; Good Friday Three Hour Service (Noon to 3 P.M.); Thanksgiving Day M.P. (9:30 A.M.);11 P.M. Christmas Eve H.C.; Christmas Day H.C. at 9:30 A.M. Men's Lenten and Advent Corp. Comm.; Womens' Advent and Lenten Corp. Comm.

D. Number and nature of services in which this congregation participates with other Episcopal congregations. State average attendance from this congregation:

Yearly schedule of Services developed by the local Ministerium. Attendance from this congregation is good.

E. What experiments or adjustments have been made in changing the hours or the format of services? Comment on results:

Changed Lenten Services from Thursday at 8 P.M. to Wednesday at 7:30 P.M. with 20% increase in attendance.

F. Additional information about Sunday services:

1. Are birthdays, anniversaries, and the departed regularly remembered? Yes
2. Is there a coffee or hospitality hour after any service? Yes
3. Is baby care provided during any service? Yes

VI. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A. Church School

1. Registration and attendance

a. Teachers and staff 23

b. Students 83

Total 106

c. Lowest total classroom attendance during the past year 43

d. Highest total classroom attendance during the past year (except for Christmas and Easter) 104

e. Are absentee cards used? Yes

f. How many months of the year is the church school in operation? 10

g. If teachers call on students in case of absence, or for other reasons, please give details. Absentee cards sent out; personal contacts by teachers if absence continued.

2. Worship schedule

CLASS OR DEPARTMENT	DAY	HOUR	DURATION	LEADER
Beginners	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	1 hour	2 adults; 2 helpers
1st Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult
2nd Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult; 1 helper
3rd Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult; 1 helper
4th Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult; 1 helper
5th Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult; 1 helper
6th & 7th Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	2 adults; 2 helpers
8th Grade	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	2 helpers; 1 adult
High School	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	2 adults
Teacher-Training Class	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	35 min.	1 adult

All classes meet in the Church for opening Service, which lasts about 25 minutes.

The Beginners Department has its own Chapel and its own Service.

3. Instruction schedule

CLASS	REGISTRATION	AGE	SEX	DAY	HOUR	DURATION	COURSE MATERIAL
Beginners	19	4 - 6	x	Sun	9:30	1 hour	David Cook
1st grade	4	7	x	Sun	9:30	35 min	Epis. Fellowship Ser.
2nd Grade	7	8	x	"	"	"	"
3rd Grade	3	9	x	"	"	"	"
4th Grade	4	10	x	"	"	"	"
5th Grade	6	11	x	"	"	"	"
6th & 7th Grade	6	12	x	"	"	"	"
8th Grade	7	13	x	"	"	"	"
High School	14	14-17	x	"	"	"	"
Teacher-Training	13	Adult	x	"	"	"	"

Adult: Following the Opening Service at 9:30, and after the children have marched to their classes, the Rector has about 35 minutes with the parents who remain. Discussion has been on the subject of Church History. Attendance: between 28 and 34. This attendance is not counted in the attendance figures of Church School, although it is a definite part of the educational program of this parish.

4. **List the teaching aids used, including audio-visual material.**

Beginners Department uses David Cook Series; rest of the School uses the Episcopal Fellowship series, plus such other visual aid material from National Council and Cathedral Film deemed advisable by the Staff.

5. **Describe the program for pre-school children.**

Nursery School during 9:30 and 11:00 Services under excellent and competent supervision. Uses toys and pictures; rest period; refreshments. The Beginners Department under excellent supervision. Has its own chapel and its own services.

6. **Data on the teaching staff**

a. **How are teachers recruited?** A most competent layman, with adequate help, leads a Teacher-Training class every Sunday during the regular Church School.

b. Describe the way in which teachers are trained, giving the number of sessions, the leaders, etc. Prospective teachers are approached out of the congregation and asked to become a part of the teaching staff. They are then entered into the Training Class. Principles of teaching, review of study materials, and teaching techniques are stressed. Chaplin's "The Privilege of Teaching" used in '64.

c. How are teachers assisted in the performance of their duties?

Monthly teachers' meetings

Regular discussion periods with the Rector

Adequate library available in the school.

d. Summary of teachers' backgrounds

AGE	Number	EDUCATION	Number	YEARS TEACHING	Number
19 years or less	1	Grade school	23	one	1
20 to 29	5	Junior high	23	two	3
30 to 39	8	Senior high	22	three	3
40 to 49	4	1 to 3 years College	6	four	4
50 years or more	5	College grad.	3	five	2
		Graduate study	1	6 to 10	5
Male	8			11 to 20	4
Female	15	K-12		20 and over	1

7. What problems does the church school have? There can always be more interest shown by the parents and by the congregation. Apart from this, there are no real problems.

B. Vacation Church School

We have no Vacation Church School.

1. When is it held? _____

2. For how long each day? _____

3. What type of courses are taught? _____

4. How many children attend, usually? _____

5. How many of these children are regular pupils of this congregation's church school? _____

6. How many teachers are there? _____

C. Released Time Program

No Released Time program in this parish.

1. When are classes held? _____

2. What type of courses are taught? _____

3. How many of this congregation's children attend? _____

4. What is the relationship of the teachers to this congregation?

5. What is the relationship of the Released Time classes to the Christian education program of this congregation?

D. Day School: If the congregation has a day school, please fill out the Parochial School Report Form and submit it with this report.

No Day School

E. Confirmation Instruction

1. Children

a. What is the usual age of confirmation? 12 b. How many instruction sessions are held? 40 c. How long is each session? 35 minutes d. Who is the instructor? Layman e. What material is used? Episcopal Fellowship Series

f. What is the relationship of the confirmation class material to the regular church school curriculum? Integrated.

2. Adults

a. How many sessions are held? 10 b. How long is each session? 1 hour c. Who is the instructor? The Rector d. What material is used? The Rector has set up his own material.

F. Adult Education

1. List the general adult education program in the congregation, including Bible classes, parents' classes, discussion groups, etc.

NAME OF GROUP	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	LENGTH OF MEETINGS	INSTRUCTOR
Rector's Class	34	40	35 minutes	Rector
Teacher-Training	13	40	35 minutes	Layman

2. What Retreats, missions, Quiet Days, etc., have the members participated in during the last two years? Estimate the total number of participants.

None

3. What leader- and participant-training programs have been held in the last two years, such as the Indiana Plan, Parish Life Conferences, Missions, and Institutes? Estimate the total number of participants.

None

G. How can the Christian education program of this congregation be strengthened?

As our Teacher-Training program develops, more and better-qualified teachers will be available. We are also planning more visual aids materials to augment our program. We are also planning a Quiet Day for the Fall, and a Retreat in the Winter.

VII. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATIONS - Include, where applicable, vestry or bishop's committee, parish council, choirs, guilds, circles, ushers, acolytes (for men as well as boys), college work, etc.

A. For Women

1. Give the total number of adult women in the congregation. 204

2. Give the number of organizations for adult women. 3

3. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 70

B. For Men

1. Give the total number of adult men in the congregation. 148

2. Give the number of organizations for adult men. 1

3. Give the total membership of all these organizations. 25

C. For Men and Women

1. Give the number of organizations for men and women. 1

2. Give the total active membership of all these organizations 20

D. For Girls in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Total number of girls	26	24	19
2. Number of organizations	2	2	2
3. Total active membership	24	23	15

E. For Boys in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Total number of boys	13	18	9
2. Number of organizations	3	3	3
3. Total active membership	12	18	9

F. For Youth in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Number of organizations	5	5	5
2. Total active membership	36	41	24

N.B. Please make a separate report for each individual organization, using the format on the following pages.

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Girls' Friendly Society

Total active members 14 Average attendance at meetings 14

Number of meetings each month 4 Day and time of meetings Mon. 4:00 P.M.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To foster the national program of G.F.S., which is designed to stimulate a feeling for the church in young minds, to the end that they may grow in grace.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

Ages 7 to 21

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Short worship program precedes workshop type of activity, with prayers and Scripture reading, and hymn singing. The educational program follows closely the national program, emphasizing handicrafts and paryicipation-type activities.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

There is a busy parish program along with the national program. The girls are sponsoring an elderly lady of the parish, and remember her at Christmas, Easter, and on her birthday. They also have fund-raising projects to finance their work.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

To help girls grow into Episcopal Church life

Teen-age apathy, and finances, are the major problems.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Enlist the aid of parents in the development of the organization.

Signed by: Mrs. Elmer Billings Title: Branch Advisor

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Young Peoples' Fellowship

Total active members 25 Average attendance at meetings 18

Number of meetings each month 4 Day and time of meetings Sun. 7:30 P.M.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To provide for the teen-age segment of the parish family an outlet for Christian work and worship.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

The teen-age membership of the congregation.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Short worship service consisting of the reading of Evening Prayer, with hymns. The educational program consists in explaining the activities of the Diocese and the National Church, and the youth insofar as they can assist this program.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Fund-raising activities of all kinds to support the program of the organization. Inter-club meetings with other Y.P.F. groups in the Diocese. Supporting the parish program in whatever way possible.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Major opportunities: to keep active the teen-agers as they go through the difficult period of adjustment from adolescence to maturity in the Church.

Problems: to keep them interested to the point that they will be active.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Constant revision of the program to keep the members active and happy; greater parental response to the aims and objectives of the organization, so that the youth will remain active.

Signed by: Miss Pamela Mauch Title: Member

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Rector's Aid

Total active members 35 Average attendance at meetings 28

Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings 2nd Tues. 8 P.M.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To support the Rector in the development of the extra-spiritual activities of the parish, and to assist wherever possible in the development of the worship program of the church.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

The women of the parish.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Short program of prayers and scripture reading. The women have a diverse program throughout the year, varied in subject matter.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Fund-raising activities of all kinds to support their program and to augment the income of the Church and to purchase needed items from time to time.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

The major opportunity is to do for the parish what the Churchwomen do for the national program. No problems.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Nothing. This group is wonderfully effective in the life of this parish.

Signed by: Mrs. Horace Mortimer Title: President

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Men's Club

Total active members 25 Average attendance at meetings 20

Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings 2nd Tues. 8 P.M.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To supply the men of the parish with an outlet for spiritual activity, and to provide them a program for the support of the parish and of the Church.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

From the confirmed male population of the parish.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Meetings opened with prayer. Whatever can add to their knowledge of the life and work and worship of the Episcopal Church, plus programs of a strictly social nature, provide the basis for their program planning.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Fund-raising projects to add to the income of the parish or to provide funds for special purposes.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Major opportunity is to give them a chance to do for their Church what they otherwise could not do, insofar as the "apart-from-worship" life of the parish is concerned.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Increase the membership through a drive, and through a more effective program.

Signed by: Mr. David Zindel Title: President

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Episcopal Churchwomen

Total active members 28 Average attendance at meetings 22

Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings 4th Tues. 8 P.M.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To implement the work of the National organization in the parish.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

All confirmed female members of the parish.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Worship service preceding business meeting, consisting of reading of Bible, five minute sermonette, prayers, and Blessing.

Educational program follows national program and emphasis.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Fund raising programs. Special services on Sunday (Advent and Lent corporate Communions and Breakfast), Mother's Day Service, distributing flowers after Christmas and Easter services, etc.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Major opportunity: to give the women of the parish an opportunity to assist in the national program of the women of the church. Problems: to enlist the support of all the women of the parish.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

A moreactive participation by the younger members of the parish.

Signed by: Mrs. Edward McDougall Title: President

IX. CLERGY OR LAY READERS IN CHARGE SINCE 1930

NAME	APPROX. AGE AT START OF MINISTRY HERE	PERIOD OF TENURE	MOVED TO:
Rev. C. Sidney Goodman	~~XXXXX~~ 45	1933-1938	Deceased
Rev. Albert F. Fischer	27	1938-1945	St. Mark's, Frankford
Rev. George E. Condit	30	1945-1955	St. George's, Central Falls, R.I.
Rev. A. Benjamin Narbeth	44	1955-1958	Good Shepherd, Silver Springs, Md
Rev. Charles B. Mauch	44	1959-	

A. Does the present minister live in the neighborhood? Yes

Does he give full time to this church? Yes If not, what other church(es) does he serve, or what other work does he do?

B. How many people from this parish have gone into full time work for the church within the past ten years, or are now studying for such work? 2
Please give details.

The Rev, Arthur Laedlein, serving as Rector of Christ, Collingwood, New Jersey

The Rev. George Laedlein, serving as Rector of St. Christopher's, Linthicum Heights, Maryland

C. How many licensed lay readers serve the congregation now? 5

Do any lay readers from this congregation serve other congregations? No

If so, which congregations?

X. FINANCE

A. Income (Last Full Year): (1) Pledges $ 18,500.00 (2) Plate offerings $ 1,000.00 (3) Parish or mission organizations $ 2,000.00 (4) Endowments $ - (5) Special fund drives $ 7,400.00 (6) Other (please specify) $ 2,000.00

Special Services and special Lenten Offering

B. Disbursements	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	Last Full Year
Total current expenses	2,317.46	9,210.72	11,027.24	10,714.26	14,644.18	25,954.20
Diocesan Assessment	12.00	707.60	900.00	832.88	1,395.25	3,000.00
Missionary Disbursements	-	520.72	600.00	3,021.33	3,839.36	762.84
Special parish expense	573.89	1,752.05	800.00	4,969.35	508.75	13,823.51
Clergy salary or salaries: from congregation a)	1,172.00	2,726.05	4,331.00	5,000.00	6,000.00	7,200.00
b)						
from other sources a)	-	-	-	-		-
b)						

Rental value of the rectory $ 720.00

Is the church in debt? Yes Amount of debt $ 10,000.00 Method of repayment $4,000.00 yearly to bank

Finance (cont'd)

7. Is a thorough Every Member Canvass conducted each year? No

If yes, by mail or personal solicitation? _____ Describe the training of the canvassers. _____

8. What other means of fund raising or stewardship education are used?

Building Fund for new educational wing solicited through mail and personal contact.

9. If this is a mission or aided parish, what is the potential for self-support? This is an independent parish

10. Additional comments or information on finances:

None

C. Travel:

1. Does the priest have a car? Yes

2. By whom is the car purchased? Priest x Congregation ___ Diocese ___

3. How much is the annual operating expense of the car, omitting depreciation? $ 1,300.00 4. By whom is the operating expense paid? _____

By the parish

5. How much does the local congregation pay? All

6. Average number of miles traveled per month on church business 1200

XI. CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM AND VISITATION

A. Clergy pastoral calling during the past year by rector or vicar:*

TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER OF CALLS PER WEEK LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
1. Family or routine parish	___	___	x
2. Sick or emergency	___	___	x
3. Calls for other purposes	___	x	___

4. Time set aside for pastoral calling:

Every afternoon - some evenings

5. How do the clergy organize their parish calling? Hospital patients - every day; ill and shut-ins - once a week (Holy Communion once a month); Parishioners - twice a year. Visits arranged by card and telephone.

6. How do the clergy organize their calling on the unchurched and newcomers?

Newcomers sign card in Church (or the Visitor's Book). Rector sends card on Monday, alerts Parish Visitor. Many personal calls.

7. Time spent in pastoral counseling (average hours per week) ~~XX~~ 8

* Please give similar information, separately, for other clergy.

B. Lay calling:

1. Describe the Zone or Neighborhood Organization. Parish divided into 40 zones. Parish Visitor in each zone. About 5-7 families in each zone.

2. Describe the program of lay pastoral visitation, including the number of participants and the time spent.

Zone leaders in active and constant contact with their zone families. Report directly to the Rector for emergencies, or to Visitation Chairman, who them contacts the Rector.

3. **Describe the program of lay evangelism (including the congregation's approach to newcomers and to the unchurched), giving the number of participants and the amount of time.** Parish Visitation Committees of both Vestry and Parish Council maintain regular contacts with newcomers. There is no program in this parish for the unchurched. Good plan is some areas; not in ours, because there are so very few.

4. **How are newcomers integrated into the life of this congregation?** Contacts by Rector and Parish Visitors. Invitations to functions, and escort service arranged, as well as transportation (if needed). Hospitality Hour (4th Sunday after 11 o'clock Service) helps tremendously.

5. **Describe any religious census of the area made by the congregation itself or with other churches during the last ten years.**

None

XII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. What use is made of the press? Weekly news items in each of two local newspapers; special services in two metropolitan newspapers as well.

B. What use is made of radio and/or television? Spot announcements of special affairs on radio.

C. What use is made of the U.S. Mail? Bulk mailing for monthly newsletter; annual report sent to every parishioner.

D. Describe the regular publications which are mailed or distributed, including Sunday bulletins, parish newsletters, etc. Sunday Bulletin on occasion; monthly newsletter to every member; notice of special services; birthday and anniversary cards to every member.

E. How many church road signs are there? 2

XIII. NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY

A. Is this congregation community-minded? Yes

B. Describe the clergy participation in community affairs. Member: West Oak Lane Ministerium; local Kiwanis Club; Ambulance Corps; Masonic orders; Boy Scouts; Red Cross; Salvation Army.

C. Describe the participation of the congregation in community affairs. Interdenominational Family Council; Blind Association; Kensington Dispensary; Eastern Star Home Auxiliary; Masonic Home Auxiliary.

D. Describe the general parish program for the community (including such church-sponsored programs as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.):

Troop 5, Boy Scouts of America

Philadelphia Blind Association (for special affairs)

E. List community organizations using the parish hall and its facilities: local Ministerium for World Day of Prayer, Reformation Sunday, and other interdenominational activities (rotating system for all churches in the ministerium).

Boy Scout Troop; Phila. Association for The Blind

F. Describe the way in which the congregation cooperates with other religious bodies:

Participates with local Ministerial Association in interdenominational affairs on a rotating basis.

XIV. PARTICIPATION IN DIOCESAN AND NATIONAL CHURCH PROGRAMS:

A. What offices do the clergy hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? None

B. What offices do the lay people hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? Diocesan President of the Girls' Friendly Society; Vice President of the Episcopal Churchwomen of the Convocation of Germantown.

C. What diocesan or National Church programs have directly benefited this congregation? Lenten Study Material - Canvass material (when we have a canvass). Materials for special national emphasis.

D. Describe the men's participation in diocesan programs: Attend annual Washington's Birthday Corporate Communion; representation at Diocesan and Convocation conventions.

E. Describe the women's participation in diocesan programs: Full partocipation in Diocesan and Convocation Churchwomen's program; active in Diocesan Church Periodical Club; active in May Fete of Episcopal Hospital.

F. Describe youth participation in diocesan programs: Supports Diocesan Youth program; attendance at Diocesan Retreats and Quiet Days throughout the year.

G. Does this congregation pay its full Missionary Share or Quota? Yes

H. What percent of the congregation's budget does for missionary work? ¼ %

XV. STAFF

A. List all paid personnel working for this congregation, giving title, function, and salary, and telling whether full or part-time.

Organist-Choirmaster	Full-time	1,200.00
Choir Soloist	Full-time	480.00
Sexton	Part-time	1,200.00
Sexton's Assistant	Part-time	300.—

B. Describe the use of volunteer personnel by this congregation.

Two volunteer choirs

Volunteer Church School staff and teachers

Vestry and Parish Council personnel

Forty Parish Visitors

Publicity Committee to prepare and mail monthly newsletter

XVI. FUTURE POLICY, PROGRAM, AND BUDGET

A. In adopting a policy for an expanded program for this congregation, in order to vitalize its Christian witness to the community; to extend its outreach of Christian fellowship to all the unchurched; to increase initiative and responsibility for all members of the congregation; to develop local financial resources with a view towards self-support and parochial status (if not already attained); and to further other essential advances, what are the immediate needs as to:

1. Personnel: None

2. Buildings: None

3. Equipment: None

B. What are the major opportunities that face this congregation?

Tremendous apartment development in area offers great potential for new members.

C. What are the major problems that face this congregation?

Inadequate evangelistic program; gradual decrease in school age children.

D. What program needs seem evident on the basis of this Study?

Neighborhood canvass. More realistic program for the unchurched.

E. What would be the approximate capital cost to meet these needs?

None

F. What would be the annual operating budget to maintain the program?

No additional

G. What steps are now being taken locally to meet these needs and opportunities?

Increased concentration on lay program of contact with new members and development of policy for the unchurched.

H. What steps are now being taken by the diocese or district, or might be taken, to assist in meeting these needs and opportunities?

Over-all program to implement and assist parish program.

I. Further data or comment on the general needs and problems of this congregation:

None

The data in this report were furnished by the following committee:

NAME	OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PARISH
The Rev. Charles B. Mauch	Rector	5
Mrs. Ellwood Booth	Housewife	10
Mr. Addison Gottshalk	Retired	12
Mrs. Horace Mortimer	Housewife	20
Mrs. William Ridler	Housewife	20
Mr. Ellwood Booth	Store executive	15

Date completed: June 18th, 1964

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM MAPS

As noted earlier, there were 366 persons located on the membership map submitted by this congregation. They are to be found in two census tracts in Bucks County, 17 census tracts in Montgomery County, and 19 census tracts in the City of Philadelphia.

Details of the membership distribution will be seen on the print-out that follows this discussion. Parish leaders may wish to refer to a census tract map when studying the information submitted.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

PARISH PHILADELPHIA ST MATTHIAS

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
B 16A	5	14
B 46	1	3
M 16A	4	11
M 17B	2	5
M 22B	3	8
M 23	2	6
M 24A	37	101
M 24B	6	17
M 25	12	33
M 26B	2	5
M 3B	7	19
M 5	2	5
M 21	3	8
M 30	6	17
M 101	4	11
M 102	3	8
M 103	6	17
M 104	2	5
M 105	3	8
22D	2	5
22E	1	3
22F	1	3
50I	3	8
50J	16	44
49C	2	5
50A	6	17
50B	1	3
50C	2	5
50D	2	5
50E	62	169
X 50F	93	254
50G	14	38
50H	6	17
50K	27	74
50M	8	22
50N	5	14
50O	1	3
50P	4	10
	366	1000

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

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This portion of the Study concerns itself with figures taken from the Journals of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Statistics were gathered for every fifth year from 1940 through 1960 and for the next three years thereafter. A summary of these vital statistics will be found on a special chart following this discussion.

The baptized membership of the congregation grew steadily from 1940 to 1950, then remained on a plateau for the next 11 years. In 1962 a growth pattern was evident again which continued in 1963. Parish leaders may wish to add more recent statistics to see whether this trend has continued.

The number of communicants reported increased from 1940 to 1961. From 1950 to 1960 this growth was 38.8. In 1962 there was a slight decline followed by an upturn the following year. Basically, the parish has not grown significantly since 1960 in this category.

The church school enrollment reached a high point in 1945 and since that time it has been slowly but consistently declining. Parish leaders should watch this trend to see if it continues.

From 1961 through 1963 there were 35 persons baptized and 38 persons presented for confirmation in this parish. These figures represent 2.4% and 2.6% respectively of the communicant strength of the congregation. Comparable figures are 3.9% and 4.1% for the Diocese of Pennsylvania and 5.5% and 5.8% respectively for the Episcopal Church nationally.

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From 1961 to 1963, inclusive, the total reported expenditures of this congregation were $76,451.00. Of this amount, $9,105.00, or 11.9%, was spent for missionary work outside of the local congregation. The comparable ratio for the Diocese of Pennsylvania is 14.9%.

Expenditures per communicant during this three-year period amounted to $51.69 for the parish and $73.71 for the diocese. Extra-parochial expenditures per communicant were $6.16 at St. Matthias' and $10.45 for all Episcopal congregations in the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

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VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH ST. MATTHIAS TOWN PHILADELPHIA

COUNTY PHILADELPHIA DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	148	355	561	559	555	571	632	643
Communicants	148	355	353	366	490	494	488	497
Church School	29	204	165	158	153	135	137	100
Baptisms	1	13	12	13	10	16	8	11
Percentage of Communicants	0.7	3.7	3.4	3.6	2.0	3.2	1.6	2.2
Confirmations	—	24	19	13	19	13	14	11
Percentage of Communicants	—	6.8	5.4	3.6	3.9	2.6	2.9	2.2
Parochial Expenditures 1	1,649	5,611	8,450	11,547	16,039	18,325	17.023	20.358
Special Par. Expenditures 2	669	2,371	3,429	6,896	3,203	6,556	1392	3692
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	12	1,228	1,272	3,021	3,839	2,661	3097	3347
Total Reported Expenditures	2,330	9,210	13,151	21,464	23,081	27,542	21,512	27,397
Expenditures per Communicant	15.74	25.94	37.25	58.64	47.10	55.75	44.08	55.12
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	0.08	3.46	3.60	8.25	7.83	5.39	6.35	6.73

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1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.

2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.

3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

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It is to be regretted that no Episcopal Census was received from this congregation. The Division of Research hopes that in the future parish leaders may see their way clear to submit a census on 80% or more of the baptized membership of the congregation. The Division of Research will be happy, as time permits, to make an analysis of the congregation's profile and to report the findings in writing back to the parish append the information to this report.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ST. MATTHIAS' CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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P.1

The life and program of this parish has good form and organization. It is apparent that thoughtful leadership is being provided. The Parish Council functions well, the parish visitors in forty zones are functioning with varying degrees of effectiveness, the church facilities have been augmented by a new educational wing, and several parish organizations report that they have no problems.

It is recommended that the rector and vestry appoint a committee to study this Survey report and use it in a continuing analysis of the life of the parish. If it is deemed best, this Study Committee might be the Parish Council.

In analyzing parish life, one of the first questions that should be discussed is why the congregation is not growing. There may be easy answers to this question; answers that readily come to mind, such as, there is a large Roman Catholic and a large Jewish population, but it would be more than helpful to the parish to have a deeper analysis made. It is suggested that perhaps it would be beneficial to rethink and restate the primary purpose of the parish in terms understandable to all the members. If this is done, then all organizational life and programs could be brought in line with the primary purpose of the parish. If any group or program were found not to be necessary, it could be retired gracefully with appreciation for its past contribution.

It is to be regretted that no Episcopal Census - giving an age, occupation, and educational profile of the parish - was received from the Church of St. Matthias'.

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Parishes submitting information on 80% or more of their baptized membership find that the report is extremely valuable in ascertaining the median age of the congregation, the number of persons in each 10-year age grouping, the strength of occupational classifications, and educational levels.

Other data submitted indicate that the membership strength of this parish has been on somewhat of a plateau since 1960. Since that time, however, the church school enrollment has been declining. The number of baptisms and confirmations, as seen in relationship to the number of reported communicants in the parish, are less than the average for Episcopal congregations in the Diocese of Pennsylvania and in the National Church. Financial figures show that the average pledge per communicant in this parish is $37.91. Expenditures per communicant during the last three reported years amounted to $51.69. Again, these figures are lower than the diocesan average. The Church Self-Study Form reports that one-fourth of the budget of this parish goes for missionary work. Figures submitted in the Church Self-Study Form and in the Annual Report for 1963 indicate that from 12% to 16% of parish monies go for work outside of the local congregation.

Although requested, no numerical attendance figures at all were given in the Church Self-Study Form. The indication was that the attendance was low at the 8:00 a.m. service on Sunday morning and was average at the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Most Episcopal congregations across the nation report an average total attendance on Sunday morning (excluding Christmas and Easter) of 45% to 50% of their reported baptized membership.

If St. Matthias' Church follows this pattern, there should be a total of 284 to 316 persons at all three services on an average Sunday. If the total attendance is less than this, then the leaders should seek to ascertain the reason or reasons.

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Opportunities for strengthening the life of the parish, commensurate with the primary parish purpose, could very well be centered around the development of an evangelistic or lay visitation program, and continuing stewardship education. With the increasing number of apartment complexes being erected in the area, and with a reported 1960 population of 52,375 persons in the eight census tracts surrounding the parish church facilities, there should be adequate opportunity for lay calling, evangelistic outreach, and locating newcomers. Since the Episcopal Church, nationally, deals with only 1.8% of the population, and since the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Pennsylvania deals with 3.2% of the population, it is not statistically valid to say that there are too many Roman Catholics or Jewish people in the area surrounding St. Matthias' Church as a reason for not engaging in an evagelistic program. Inasmuch as we deal with less than 5% of the population, there are always newcomers and unchurched people in the area who can be reached.

The Church Self-Study Form says that there is no thorough Every Member Canvass conducted each year. While many individuals in the congregation are probably giving sacrifically, it is apparent that there is a number of "token givers". All members of this parish should be led to understand that their giving and their worship are unalterably linked together. Proportionate giving, looking toward tithing, should be thoroughly discussed, and if the vestry sees fit, the goal of tithing might be adopted as the parish norm for all members.

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The committee that prepared the Church Self-Study Form report reveals an awareness of the need for outreach in the parish program, for the development of lay participation, particularly in reaching prospective members, and for the strengthening of the evangelistic program of the parish. This is to be commended, and the Division of Research hopes that the plans already started may be strengthened and brought to fruition as soon as possible. It is to be noted, however, that nowhere in the Self-Study report is any concern expressed for what the Church of St. Matthias' can do to serve its community and its diocese. The concepts of MRI, the theological implications of a parish being a part of a diocese, and the obligatory nature of the Divine Commission, ought to be part of the everyday thinking of the members of the parish. Success and growth in a parish generally come about as the congregation forgets its own needs and seeks to fulfill its primary purpose.